

What is claimed is:

1. A gradient optical film, comprising:
  - a binder;
  - a plurality of elongated particles; and
  - a plurality of interconnected voids, wherein a local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids varies in a continuous matter along a thickness direction of the gradient optical film, and wherein a first local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids proximate a first surface of the gradient optical film, is greater than a second local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids proximate an opposing surface of the gradient optical film.
2. The gradient optical film of claim 1, wherein the local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids comprises a minimum local volume fraction or a maximum local volume fraction, along the thickness of the gradient optical film.
3. The gradient optical film of claim 1, wherein the second volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids is less than 50% of the first volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids.
4. The gradient optical film of claim 1, wherein the second volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids is less than 20% of the first volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids.
5. The gradient optical film of claim 1, wherein the gradient optical film has a bulk volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids that is not less than about 20%, a thickness of the gradient optical film is not less than about 2.5 micron, and an optical haze of the gradient optical film is not greater than about 10%.
6. A gradient optical film, comprising:
  - a plurality of elongated particles; and

a plurality of voids, wherein a local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids varies in a continuous manner along a thickness direction of the gradient optical film, and wherein the gradient optical film has a first index of refraction proximate a first surface of the gradient optical film that is lower than a second index of refraction proximate an opposing surface of the gradient optical film, and wherein the first index of refraction is not greater than about 1.3.

7. The gradient optical film of claim 6, wherein the local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids comprises a minimum local volume fraction or a maximum local volume fraction, along the thickness of the gradient optical film.

8. The gradient optical film of claim 6, wherein the second volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids is less than 50% of the first volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids.

9. The gradient optical film of claim 6, wherein the second volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids is less than 20% of the first volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids.

10. The gradient optical film of claim 6, wherein the second volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids is less than 10% of the first volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids.

11. An optical construction, comprising:

a structured surface comprising a plurality of structures,; and

a gradient optical film coated on and substantially planarizing the structured surface, the gradient optical film comprising:

a plurality of interconnected voids, wherein a local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids varies in a continuous manner along a thickness direction of the gradient optical film, and wherein

a first local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids proximate the plurality of structures is greater than a second local volume fraction of the plurality of interconnected voids proximate an opposing surface of the gradient optical film.

12. The optical construction of claim 11, wherein the gradient optical film further comprises an index proximate the plurality of structures that is not greater than about 1.3.

13. The optical construction of claim 11, wherein the gradient optical film further comprises an optical haze that is not greater than about 10%.

14. The gradient optical film of claim 1 having an optical haze that is not less than about 80%, wherein light scattered by the gradient optical film for normally incident light has a luminance  $L_1$  at zero degrees and a luminance  $L_2$  at 10 degrees,  $L_1/L_2$  not being less than about 10.

15. An optical construction comprising:

an optical diffuser layer having an optical haze that is not less than about 30%;  
the gradient optical film of claim 1 disposed on the optical diffuser layer; and  
a reflective polarizer layer disposed on the gradient optical film, wherein  
substantial portions of each two neighboring major surfaces in the  
optical construction are in physical contact with each other.

16. The optical construction of claim 15, wherein the gradient optical film is laminated to at least one of the reflective polarizer layer and the optical diffuser layer via an optical adhesive layer.

17. The optical construction of claim 15, wherein the gradient optical film is coated on at least one of the reflective polarizer layer and the optical diffuser layer.